

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 455

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Steve Patterson of Patterson's Home Appliance Center on receiving the 2009 Roane County Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as highly successful professionals and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Steve Patterson, proprietor of Patterson's Home Appliance Center in Harriman, who recently received the 2009 Roane County Chamber of Commerce's Business of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the Roane County Chamber of Commerce presents this award every year to recognize businesses that significantly and positively affect the ongoing progress of Roane County and its surrounding areas; the business must uphold the standards set by the Chamber and stand as an example to other area businesses; and

WHEREAS, Patterson's Home Appliance Center is a family-owned business that was founded in 1965 by Don Patterson and his wife, Florence; the couple operated the business out of their basement until Mr. Patterson was able to purchase a building in Midtown, where the business has remained for many years, undergoing occasional renovations to add space as needed; and

WHEREAS, as a teenager, Steve Patterson began working in his father's store, delivering and installing appliances, and after accruing some experience in the appliance business under his father's tutelage, Steve Patterson began selling his father's wares and participating in the store's management; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Steve Patterson took over Patterson's Home Appliance Center, thereby allowing his father, Don, to retire; the business now includes four locations: the Oak Ridge Store opened in 1986; Patterson's added a Knoxville store to the growing local chain in 1993; and in 2007, the Outlet was opened in Rockwood; and

WHEREAS, Steve Patterson is on the Board of Directors for the Brand Source Associated Volume Buying Group of the Southeast, which helps businesses secure good wholesale prices and then pass the savings along to their customers; this is just one of many examples of Mr. Patterson's business acumen; and

WHEREAS, outside of his busy professional life, Steve Patterson still finds time to lend his talents to the Roane County Chamber of Commerce, his fellow congregants at Morrison Hill Christian Church, and a number of other worthy causes and organizations; and

WHEREAS, a highly active member of the Chamber, Steve Patterson served on its Board from 1998 to 2005; from 1999 to 2001 and from 2002 to 2003, he chaired the Chamber's Small Business/Retail Committee. Mr. Patterson is also a key promoter of Shop Roane First and the Holiday Shopping Spree; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, Steve Patterson was involved in the Boy Scouts of America, achieving the status of Eagle Scout in 1978; when his own sons became Scouts, Mr. Patterson became involved in that estimable organization yet again, serving as an Assistant Scout Leader and volunteering for various fundraising efforts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Patterson also serves on the Board of the Roane County Rescue Squad, belongs to the Masonic Lodge #38 in Kingston, and actively supports The Refuge, a ministry that helps homeless women and families; he has worked to raise funds for Smokin' on the River, the Lions Club, and other community organizations as well; and

WHEREAS, when he is not otherwise occupied with business or community matters, Mr. Patterson can be found working in his vegetable garden, spending time with his family, or riding his motorcycle; and

WHEREAS, although he has enjoyed great success in his professional life, his personal life, and his civic life, Steve Patterson is always quick to credit others for the help he has

received along the way; a man of deep faith, Mr. Patterson's success is, by his own estimation, a testament to the benevolent hand of God; and

WHEREAS, Steve Patterson epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mr. Patterson for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Steve Patterson of Patterson's Home Appliance Center on receiving the 2009 Roane County Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.